

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates.

My family and I live in the Indianapolis metropolitan area. The Indianapolis Star, no longer locally owned but part of the Gannett publishing empire, also owns the small newspaper that services the suburb where we live. Gannett has already reduced that newspaper's daily distribution to a weekly. Diversity of opinion in the newspaper market here? Not at all. No television station here has local ownership, either. There is no alternative radio -- so I depend solely upon the Internet to receive a diversity of news reporting. I believe, and continue to believe, that FCC ownership rules are necessary to promote diversity and competition in American media. Our democracy depends upon that diversity. The FCC has a responsibility to promote media diversity to protect the voices of the underrepresented in our nation.